Services Negotiations at WTO

*56. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India has submitted its revised offers or going to submit the same in the services negotiations at the WTO where initial offers were made in 2003; and

(b) what is the flexibility that the Ministry is thinking that it has to move forward in services negotiations which will help India in the forthcoming meeting of WTO?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) India will be submitting its Revised Offer on services to the WTO shortly.

(b) The Services Negotiations move forward on a request-offer basis by all members of the WTO. While it is expected that other countries would respond favourably to our requests of increased market access, especially in Modes 1 & 4 in various sectors of importance to India, India has already autonomously liberalized in various sectors, and this provides the necessary flexibility to move the negotiations forward.

Recommendations of Review Committee on POTA

*57. SHRI SHAHID SIDDIQUI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Review Committee on POTA has submitted a report on POTA accused in Godhra incident;

(b) what are the recommendations of this Committee; and

(c) what action has been taken to implement this report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) The Central POTA Review headed by Justice (Retd.) S.C. Jain has reviewed the cases of each accused chargesheeted under the provisions of POTA in connection with Godhra train incident and submitted its opinion on 17th May, 2005.

(b) In the opinion of the Committee, the accused persons may not be tried under POTA, 2002, but, they may be tried under other laws.

(c) The Review Committee had directed the Public Prosecutor concerned to file the appropriate application under section 321 of Cr. PC. without any delay and place the opinion of the Review Committee before the POTA Special Court. The application has accordingly been filed before the POTA Special Court.

Export of adulterated chillies

*58. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:
SHRIR.K.ANAND:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have ascertained the facts regarding reported export of adulterated chillies, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government have taken up the issue on behalf of Indian exporters, if so, what steps are taken, if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether WTO agreements provide for sanitary-standards, if so, are they standardised, if so, the details thereof, if not. the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether Government have also ascertained that the sanitary-standards are not used as non-tariff barriers against agro-exports from developing countries, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The reports regarding export of adulterated chillies refer mostly to the presence of the prohibited Sudan I to IV dyes in chilli exported to European Union (EU). Since 2003, European Commission has issued about 61 rapid alerts claiming presence of Sudan dyes in chillies/chilli products exported from India or in food products exported from India or in food products manufactured in the EU using chilli powder/chilli products in sourced from India. However, in February-March, 2005, Food Standard Agency (FSA), United Kingdom, ordered recall of food stuffs contaminated with Sudan dyes. The chilli powder claimed to have been used in the manufacture of recalled products in UK was exported in 2002, before the introduction